GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5010
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2001
HYBRID TECHNOLOGY
CHANDRA NATH SINGH;SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has joined the select club of a few countries and transnational corporate houses to possess hybrid wheat technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which the hybrid wheat is likely to help to achieve the higher productivity levels;

(d) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has decided the modalities of patenting the technology and passing commercial seed production; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Indian Agricultural Scientists have developed experimental wheat hybrids, which are currently under field evaluation in the research stations.

(c) According to the preliminary information available from limited experimental data, hybrid wheat may offer 15-20% higher grain yield.

(d) As the hybrid wheat is yet to be developed as a technology, it is premature to say anything on patenting of wheat hybrid and taking up its commercial seed production. More over, there is no legislation in the country to patent plant varieties.

(e) Question does not arise Sir.